

## ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008***

### **Golden Kay Apartments**

June 22, 2009

PWSID 0070202

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source is one active well which draws from an underground source known as an Aquifer. The depth of our well is approximately 92 feet.

We have a source water protection plan available that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan is available at the Cecil County Public Library or from Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact our office at (410) 398-6942. We want our residents to be informed about their water.

Golden Kay Apartments routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008, or as otherwise indicated. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Beta/photon emitters (average)	N	8	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters (average)	Y	17	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium, average	N	4.5	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (combined)	N	< 1.0	pCi/L	0	20	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Copper	N	0.068	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	N	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (2007)	N	2.69	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>						
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (2007)	N	1.0	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>						
Sodium (2007)	N	95.3	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Test results are for year 2008 unless noted otherwise; testing for all contaminants is not required annually.

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. This past year we received a reporting violation for failure to have the result of our monthly bacti test for July to MDE by the due date of August 10<sup>th</sup>. This did not pose a threat to the quality of our water supply as results were negative for the presence of bacteria.

We also received a violation notice for the month of September when results of our monthly bacti test was positive for the presence of bacteria. As a precaution to ensure the safety of your water, our well was disinfected in accordance with recommended health department procedures. This was followed up with repeat samples in accordance with Federal and State requirements. These were all negative for the presence of bacteria. Our system was returned to compliance at that time.

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Our water system continues on quarterly monitoring for gross alpha emitters, as well as combined radium 226 & 228 to confirm the concentrations of these contaminants which had been detected at levels slightly higher than the MCL for these contaminants in 2006. We received a violation for gross alpha emitters in 2008 when the average of quarterly monitoring results were again slightly higher than allowable levels for these contaminants. Adjustments were made to our treatment units installed for removal of these contaminants which lowered the levels back under the allowable limits, and our system was returned to compliance. We are contracted with a water conditioning company to maintain this treatment system.

Our system also received a violation notice for lead and copper compliance monitoring tests for failure to complete follow up monitoring at the appropriate time in 2008. Test results for these contaminants that were completed were well below the action levels (AL) as noted in the above table. We are scheduled to complete additional follow up testing in 2009.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Golden Kay Apartments is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**NOTE:** As can be seen by results listed in the above tables, lead was not detected in our most recently collected samples.



All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Please call our office at 410-398-6942 if you have questions about this report.